

City of Corunna
Regular Council Meeting
Monday, August 6, 2001

Present: Billis, Bayless, Dumond, Hornus, Mehigh, Ockerman, Runyan.

Absent: None.

Guests: Joe Sawyer, City Manager; Dennis Loynes; Gene Sanderson; Bernie & Pat Yott; Don Runyon; Dan Flynn; Trevor Wagonmaker, Capital Consultants; Judy Horton; Larry LeCureux; Gary Schooley; Janet Washburn, Parks & Recreation Director; Tim Crawford, Superintendent of Public Works; Jeremy Boyd, Treasurer; Kevin Sanderson; Bill Kimble, Capital Consultants; Dick Waters; Bob Striggow; Chief Mark Hetfield, Police Department; Rich Harsh; Jackie Leone, The Argus Press; Sgt. Kevin Clark, Police Department; Chief Scott Johnson, Fire Department; and other concerned citizens.

The meeting was called to order in the City Council Chambers by Mayor Billis at 7:00 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS REGULAR MEETING: Hornus moved, Mehigh seconded to approve the minutes of the previous regular meeting.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Ockerman, Dumond, Hornus, Runyan, Bayless, Mehigh.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

AGENDA APPROVAL: Ockerman moved, Bayless seconded to approve the agenda as presented with

the addition of Item No. 24) Re-table Public Hearing for Charter Amendments.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Bayless, Runyan, Mehigh, Ockerman, Dumond, Hornus.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

APPROVAL OF VENDOR DISBURSEMENTS: Hornus moved, Dumond seconded to approve the vendor disbursements as presented.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Runyan, Ockerman, Bayless, Hornus, Mehigh, Dumond.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

COUNCIL ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION: Councilperson Runyan thanked the people who patched the concrete wall in the cemetery. He advised Bob Volek is working on getting the old sand stone markers repaired and put back where they are suppose to go.

Councilperson Mehigh stated he drove through the park on Sunday and there were several cars parked on the grass. He further stated he stopped at city hall but could not find a police officer. He also stated the grass is pretty stressed this time of year and felt the park should be monitored closer. Councilperson Mehigh advised he had some concerns with the ambulance service's

financial condition, which might affect all of us down the road. He further advised he and Tom Wazny asked Councilperson Ockerman to sit in on the meeting in order to get his input too. He asked Councilperson Ockerman to explain the details. Councilperson Ockerman stated he has sat in on the ambulance board meetings for the last five meetings and many of them have been special meetings. He further stated he has not been real pleased with what he has heard, seen or how he has been treated. He also stated he has a good rapport with Councilperson Mehig and Tom Wazny from Caledonia Township. Councilperson Ockerman advised that Mr. Wazny is extremely concerned with what has been happening with the ambulance board.

Councilperson Ockerman further advised he felt it was time that the entire city council knew what is going on from his perspective. He realizes that Councilperson Bayless is the ambulance board president, but he was not sure the rest of the council knew about some of the things that are going on that council really needs to know. Councilperson Ockerman also advised three years ago the ambulance board had a \$56,000 surplus in its account, but today the ambulance board is in debt \$100,000. Councilperson Ockerman stated the ambulance service is no longer made up of volunteers. The ambulance service has regular workers like any corporation has. He further stated Caledonia Township has given a 30-day notice of withdrawal, which the township may or may not act upon. The township encompasses about 1,600 homes and at \$10.00 per home this gives the ambulance service \$18,000 per year. He also stated Mr. Wazny is extremely frustrated with the ambulance board, and the continuing bad decisions that Mr. Wazny feels are being made. Councilperson Ockerman advised after sitting out in the audience he concurred with Mr. Wazny. The ambulance board is currently made up of 12 people. Councilperson Ockerman further advised the employees are represented, but the problem with that is the employees get to vote, which does not make any sense. He also advised the current operations manager does exactly the same thing. She has a vote, which he and Mr. Wazny do not think is legal. Councilperson Ockerman stated the ambulance board cannot continue to be funded without Caledonia Township, and he would not vote to support the ambulance service if it was just Corunna and the rest of the individuals. The city really needs to work hard with the ambulance board to keep Caledonia Township or the ambulance service will fail, and there is no doubt that it will fail. Councilperson Ockerman further stated the ambulance board had a chance for a new operations manager, which was really, really needed, but he felt the ambulance board had an excellent outside person as a candidate, but that is not who the ambulance board chose. The ambulance board chose an employee who was a part of the people that are already involved, and he was not saying the person hired might not be capable, but the person certainly leans towards the views of the employees and he did not think there was any doubt about that. He also stated some of the bitterness that the operations manager alluded to and what she thinks is political is not political. It is the people's money that he was concerned with and it has nothing to do with politics. Councilperson Ockerman explained there is a lot of bitterness by the employees as well as the operations manager towards everything but particularly towards the officials of Corunna and Caledonia Township including Mr. Wazny and the other person that sits on the ambulance board. Councilperson Ockerman further explained the last item that everyone has to know about is at that the quarter taxes to the State of Michigan have not been paid for the years 1999, 2000, and 2001 and how that could be possible is beyond anything he knows of. He also explained the public needs to know that this might be a criminal problem, but he hated to make that statement because it sounds tough, but it is a fact. The ambulance board needs to check to see if the federal quarterly taxes have been paid. Councilperson Ockerman stated there are some serious problems, and the ambulance service is out of control. The suggestions by Caledonia Township, which he concurs with, are to reduce the board and to have more

representation by the parties who are paying the bills. He further stated Mr. Wazny's coined phrase is "he who has the dollars gets to make the decisions", which makes good sense to him. It is time for the public and the city council to know what a dire situation the ambulance service is in, and he cannot explain anything better than he already has. He also stated he knows this is tough stuff, but these are the facts, and it is his responsibility and Councilperson Mehigh's responsibility to keep the city council and the public informed about the situation.

Councilperson Ockerman advised Councilperson Bayless might want to argue that fact but those are the facts as he saw them. Councilperson Bayless stated the ambulance service does have some problems, but he thought the ambulance board has made some progress in addressing the problems. A lot of what Councilperson Ockerman stated is true. The ambulance service has had some financial problems and has run into debt with Lansing Mason. Councilperson Bayless further stated the ambulance service has had more money in the bank than it does now, but there was a previous debt so the statement Councilperson Ockerman made about having a large reserve was not accurate. The ambulance service's debt has increased as time has gone by. Councilperson Bayless also stated he was not aware of the 30-day notice from Caledonia Township. Mr. Wazny stated at one of the ambulance board meetings that the township was considering a 30-day notice, but he has not seen a notice so he needs to look into that situation. Councilperson Bayless advised as far as the voting goes the ambulance board has been looking into that, and the board is trying to redo the by-laws in order to address the issue regarding the operations manager and employee representative having a vote. He further advised the ambulance board has been looking into what other ambulance boards are doing. There are some ambulance boards that have three employees on their board, but Corunna ambulance board has one employee representative on the board who is elected by the other employees to address their concerns. He also advised the ambulance board might decide to let the employee representative stay on the board to give input but not allow the representative to vote on any money issues, which he believes would be fair. The ambulance board needs to change the by-laws to address that issue. Councilperson Bayless explained the ambulance board went through an interview process to hire a operations manager and there were good candidates, but the ambulance board chose the person they chose by a vote of the majority. In his opinion, the ambulance service is further ahead having someone who is really familiar with the ambulance service's operation than if a person coming from the outside was hired. He further explained the person coming from the outside would take longer to get up to speed. He also explained Caledonia Township voted down the \$15.00 per household support fee and informed the city council that the township has not paid the \$10.00 per household fee either. Councilperson Bayless advised the reason Caledonia Township voted down the support fee was due to the volunteer versus employee thing. The township wanted to know why the ambulance board was giving everyone a raise, but not everyone was given a raise. The ambulance service's finances were restructured, and the employees are now paid an hourly minimum wage. The ambulance board took away the run fees and a few other little things, which has resulted in the wages actually going down. He further advised the ambulance board is in compliance with the state requirements regarding employees and what is required. He also advised he has asked the ambulance board to give him authority to get a legal opinion, but the board has not done that as of this point. Councilperson Bayless stated he contacted a labor attorney that Mr. Sawyer had recommended, and the labor attorney is willing to give the ambulance board a legal opinion at the cost of \$900.00 on what is needed to meet state and federal requirements for labor such as providing benefits and overtime including what is legally required based on the employees' status of having to be on 24/7 shifts. Councilperson Bayless further stated when a person is paid to do a job the person is considered to be an employee, and

the employee has to be paid fairly but not less than minimum wage. He also stated he was afraid the ambulance board would get in a lot of trouble with the state if the ambulance board did not address this situation. Councilperson Bayless advised this was something that he felt the board should do, and he is still trying to get a legal opinion to make sure the ambulance board is following everything that has to be done, but the board has not approved his request yet. He further advised Caledonia Township also wanted the ambulance service to go ALS (Advanced Life Support), and Councilperson Bayless was pleased to announce that the ambulance board decided, with Mr. Wazny making the motion, to purchase an echo unit, which is being equipped now. As soon as the unit is inspected, the Corunna ambulance service will be a self-contained advanced life support provider. Councilperson Bayless also advised the ambulance board would no longer be contracted with Lansing Mason. Lansing Mason might still be in the county as a backup, and the ambulance service might have to deal with them from time to time, but the ambulance service will have its own echo unit to respond to paramedic calls. Councilperson Bayless explained the ambulance board is trying to figure out ways to pay off Lansing Mason. The ambulance service has a lot of assets including its facility, and there might be a way to borrow money against the facility to pay off Lansing Mason. He further explained the ambulance board has asked Lansing Mason to make the board an offer of what they would take as a cash settlement so the ambulance board would not have to pay the full amount, which would probably offset the interest and save the board some money. He also explained at the last special meeting another billing company, Medical Management Systems of Lansing, was asked to do a presentation at the board's request, and the ambulance board has agreed to contract with them to do the billing services. Medical Management Systems of Lansing are professional people, have an outstanding reputation, and their turnaround is over 90 percent within 58 days. Councilperson Bayless stated right now, the ambulance service is not getting close to 50 percent after a year so that is the difference there. He further stated he thought the ambulance service would have a positive cash flow in short order, will have money to operate, and he felt the ambulance service was on the right track. He also stated he was really sorry that it took him so long to push for some of these things in order to get to this point, but it is probably almost two years too late. One of the big things that helped push this along is the new operations manager. The new operations manager is bringing things to the light, which were kind of swept under the rug before by a previous manager. Councilperson Bayless advised he does not want to discourage anybody's character or anything, but he could see the difference between what the new operations manager is doing and what the previous manager did. The new operations manager is being active, checking on things, and following through with finding out the issues that were kind of hidden. He further advised now that the ambulance board knows about the issues they can be addressed in order to get on a positive track. There are a lot of good things happening right now, and he was not at all worried about the ambulance service being in trouble because he thinks the ambulance board will turn things around in short order. He also advised the ambulance service would be stronger and better than it ever has been.

CALL TO AUDIENCE: Gene Sanderson stated he put a work order in at the front office last week to get the weeds cut along S. Shiawassee Street from the Veterans of Foreign Wars hall, but they are still not cut. It will be very attractive to see three or four feet high weeds for the thousands of cars that will be coming into the city to go to the county fair this week. Mr. Sanderson asked why the weeds could not be cut. When there is something like the Fourth of July or Memorial Day he has seen all these people trimming around the river and everything but the south end of Corunna still looks like a dump. Mayor Billis stated he believed a work order was put in. Joe

Sawyer advised if the work order was put in last week he could guarantee that it has not been 10 days yet. Mr. Sanderson stated the city has kids working this summer and asked if they could do something to help make the city look good. Mayor Billis stated Mr. Sanderson has a good point. If the weeds are tall, it is not a very good presentation when a person comes into the city. Mr. Sanderson stated he would cut the weeds if the city loaned him the string trimmer. He asked if there was a possibility that the ambulance employees would try to organize a union and then go out on strike and leave people with no coverage at all. Mayor Billis advised the ambulance employees could do that, but they do not need a union to strike. He further advised the employees could all get together and decide not to go to work. The employees do not need a union to organize because they can organize themselves right now if there was somebody that wanted to go in that direction. Mr. Sanderson asked if that would that leave the city short handed or are there provisions in place in case this happens. Mayor Billis stated the ambulance would not be anymore short handed than if the employees decide they do not want to be there. It is totally up to the employees. He further stated he knows some of the people who work for the ambulance service and they are very dedicated, and he did not think they would leave anybody without emergency care because that is what the people are there for. Mr. Sanderson asked if anyone was looking into this situation in case something like this should happen. Mayor Billis asked Councilperson Bayless if anything was in place. Councilperson Bayless advised anything is possible, but he thought it was highly unlikely. The county 911 system would dispatch the nearest available unit for any run, and it could be possible to bring in somebody and have them stationed nearby. He further advised the employees are all working with the ambulance board. The employees know the financial condition, and they are pleased with the steps the board is making. Councilperson Bayless stated the employees are also excited about having an advanced life support unit. There are problems to solve, but the ambulance board has made the two big steps it had to make to turn the ambulance service around. Councilperson Bayless stated people will see a big turnaround over the next three or four months so stay tuned.

CONSIDER KINGSLEY/MCARTHUR AMENDMENT: Ockerman moved, Hornus seconded to approve Amendment No. 3 for Engineering Services Contract 2000 Road Improvements Project King/Kingsley/McArthur in the amount of \$28,500 to be paid from line item 517-550-821.000 and authorize the mayor to sign the amendment. Mayor Billis asked if this was something the city did not have to do but was choosing to do. Mr. Sawyer advised no, there has to be a construction engineer on the job. Bill Kimble from Capital Consultants advised the Michigan Department of Transportation requires an engineer.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Hornus, Mehig, Dumond, Bayless, Ockerman, Runyan.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER 2001 STREET IMPROVEMENTS: Ockerman moved, Hornus seconded to approve the proposal for Engineering Services 2001 Street Improvements Contract in the amount of \$23,600 to be paid from line items 203-453-821.000 / 590-458-821.000 / 591-557-821.000 and authorize the mayor to sign the amendment.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Mehig, Bayless, Runyan, Dumond, Hornus, Ockerman.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER GENERAL ENGINEERING AGREEMENT RENEWAL: Ockerman moved, Hornus seconded to approve the General Engineering Services Agreement renewal with Capital Consultants. Councilperson Ockerman thanked Capital Consultants for doing a great job.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Dumond, Hornus, Ockerman, Mehig, Runyan, Bayless.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER ODYSSEY OF THE MIND CONTRACT: Councilperson Ockerman stated he thought what the Odyssey of the Mind wanted to do was a wonderful idea, but he has had some concerns from the beginning. He further stated he happened to run into Mr. Flynn in East Tawas and informed him that there are fire trucks in the commercial building. Mr. Flynn told him that would not be a problem because he already got permission that the fire trucks would be moved out of the building and a tarp would be placed over them. Councilperson Ockerman advised Mr. Flynn that he was chairman of the fire board and did not know that. Apparently the fire chief made the decision, which he is allowed to do, but he would like the respect to have the decision brought to the fire board. Councilperson Ockerman further advised he had some problems with the fire trucks sitting outside. The fire truck is worth a lot of money and putting a tarp over the truck does not protect the truck like it would be protected inside the building. He also advised it is possible that the equipment could be vandalized, since vandalism does occur in the park, so it does not make sense to allow the Odyssey of the Mind to use the building. The fire equipment runs \$75,000 to \$150,000, and he hoped Mr. Flynn understood his concerns. Councilperson Ockerman stated he received a phone call from a former chief who had some real concerns too, which were the same as his. Councilperson Ockerman further stated since the fire trucks are at one end of the building he suggested building a temporary wall, which would prevent vandals from getting to the trucks from inside and outside of the building. He also stated he realizes this is not what Mr. Flynn wants, but it does not make any sense to put the fire equipment outside. Councilperson Ockerman advised another problem was brought to his attention today. The commercial building needs to have two access areas per the fire code, but he has not looked at the building and assumed there was a side door. Councilperson Hornus advised yes, there is a side door. Councilperson Ockerman advised he would not vote to approve the request the way it is right now. It is stupid for the city to put the fire equipment outside. Councilperson Ockerman asked Mr. Flynn if he could get along with three-quarters of the building. Mr. Flynn advised yes. Councilperson Ockerman asked if a temporary wall could be built since other things are going to be built in the building anyway, and if this could be done then he would be in favor of what the group is going to do. Mr. Flynn advised yes, because his group was only going to use 120 feet of the building anyway. Councilperson Ockerman stated he did not have a problem with what is going to be done, but the building has to be segregated because he does not want people or kids jumping and crawling over the fire truck since the city is responsible for the liability as well as damage. Something needs to be done to protect the equipment. Councilperson Ockerman asked Mr. Flynn if this would be a problem. Mr. Flynn advised no. Councilperson Runyan asked if the temporary wall had to be wood or if a snow fence could be used. Councilperson Ockerman stated he would not be happy with using a snow fence at all. Mayor Billis stated if the city council is going to place restrictions or considerations on these people to build a wall then it is only fitting and fair to them that the city give them the specifications on the type of wall that is

expected. It would not be fair to have them build a wall five times because the wall it is not what the city wanted built. Councilperson Ockerman asked Councilperson Runyan if he was done since Councilperson Runyan had the floor, and it was taken away. Councilperson Ockerman suggested adding to the motion that the Odyssey of the Mind work with Mr. Sawyer on building a wall that will protect the fire trucks and will not allow kids to get in. Councilperson Hornus stated the wall should be high enough so people cannot see the fire equipment and solid enough so no one can walk through it. Kevin Sanderson asked if an eight-foot high plywood wall would work. Councilperson Dumond advised that would be fine. Mr. Sanderson advised there would be a hallway all around the structure in case of fire so putting up an eight-foot wall would not be a problem. Councilperson Mehig asked if there was something in the contract about a rental fee. Janet Washburn advised yes, paragraph two of the contract states "in place of payment for the use of the building, the LEASEE agrees to allow free admission to the attendees of the Parks and Recreation Halloween Party. The criteria for this will be agreed upon between the two parties." She further advised the Odyssey of the Mind would be waiving approximately \$1,200 in entrance fees and there would be a meeting to set up criteria for ages. Councilperson Ockerman stated council had talked about ten-percent when the group made its original presentation. Ockerman moved, Hornus seconded to approve the contract for rental of the commercial building with Odyssey of the Mind for the period of September 10, 2001 through November 4, 2001 for the considerations as specified and authorize the Parks and Recreation Director to sign the contract with the stipulation that the Odyssey of the Mind group work with the city manager in building the wall to prevent kids from getting in.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Ockerman, Dumond, Hornus, Runyan, Bayless, Mehig.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER ROLLER HOCKEY RINK CONTRACT: Mayor Billis stated he did not feel he has had enough time to absorb the information he received and he has not had enough time to make a decision, but he does not make the decision. He further stated if council wanted to postpone making a decision on this issue in order to better study and absorb the information then that was a council decision. He also stated this is what he would do but he is not a councilperson. Councilperson Ockerman stated he had the same concern and asked how critical it was for council to move on the issue tonight. Councilperson Hornus advised Ms. Washburn says it is critical. Councilperson Ockerman stated critical is a problem when things are given to council at 7:00 p.m. tonight. Councilperson Dumond stated council had most of the information in the packets. Councilperson Ockerman advised council did not have the usage schedule prior to the meeting and it is detailed. He further advised he was not trying to delay a decision, but it was not fair to have something put before council this late. Councilperson Ockerman asked Ms. Washburn if she had any input. Ms. Washburn advised she altered the contract again. The contract council had before them was changed the way the city council had requested it to be done at the last council meeting. She further advised she did not put in a percentage in the contract that council received in their packet. The percentage recommended by the parks and recreation commission was one percent of the net; however, since that time, a contract for an adult league has come across her desk, and the adult league's contract was written the same except the adult league is going to give the city \$5.00 per player. She also advised she felt the adult and youth league contracts should be the same. She informed Mr. Loynes that she changed the contract from one-percent of the net to \$5.00 per player for his league and he

agreed to the change. Ms. Washburn explained the adult league contract would be on the August 20th agenda. She further explained the youth league plans to use the hockey rink for practice starting August 27 but the contract states September 15. Councilperson Mehigh asked if the youth league schedule included the adult league. Ms. Washburn advised no, but she does have their schedule. She further advised there is some confusion on the schedule because the schedule shows the practice times and open skating times are Monday through Thursday from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Mr. Loynes advised the practice times for the youth league hockey season are Monday through Thursday from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Open skating could be held until 5:00 p.m. on those days, all day Friday since the league does not do anything on Friday, and until 9:30 a.m. on Saturday. The youth league would use the hockey rink from 9:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Saturday and from 11:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Sunday. He further advised open skating could be held after 7:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Councilperson Ockerman stated he wants the open skating times posted in some fashion so there will be no conflict with someone telling the kids they cannot skate, and the kids can look at the sign and tell the person yes they can. Ms. Washburn advised she would take care of that. She further advised there needs to be some serious rules for the use of the rink. Councilperson Mehigh asked if the adult league would take the time they need to play away from the open skating time. Ms. Washburn advised the adult league is the same time frame as the youth league. The adult league want to use the hockey rink for practice on Tuesday and Thursday between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Councilperson Mehigh stated if he heard correctly the adult league should not have a big bearing on the open skating time. Ms. Washburn advised the adult league want to use the hockey rink on Saturday and Sunday between 6:00 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. Councilperson Ockerman stated it would be a conflict for Mr. Loynes' league. Since council has asked Mr. Loynes to post his times then those should be his times. Ms. Washburn agreed. Councilperson Ockerman stated the adult league should not interfere with the youth league. Councilperson Mehigh asked if the adult league time would come out of the youth league time. Councilperson Ockerman advised no. Councilperson Runyan suggested tabling the issue until council had a chance to review the adult league lease and schedule in order to compare both schedules. Mayor Billis informed Councilperson Runyan he could do anything that he wanted to do. Mr. Sawyer stated roller hockey practice starts on August 27 so the intent was to try to finalize the contract with Mr. Loynes so his league was not cut short, and the city would give Mr. Loynes what he needed for his season. He further stated the youth hockey league agreement would give the city a model agreement to use for the adult league. He also stated Richard Harsh was present and was representing the adult league. Mr. Sawyer explained the adult league does not practice, but if they did their practice would be held during open skating times. He further explained their lease would make it very clear that they only practice if nobody is using the hockey rink, but the minute someone shows up then they would be off. He also explained the adult league has nothing Monday through Thursday or on Friday, which would not affect the open skate, but on Saturday the adult league was looking at 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and on Sunday the adult league was looking at 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Mr. Harsh advised the adult league would structure their games around so they would not interfere with the youth league. Ms. Washburn stated the youth league is the priority since they are the ones the city has been dealing with. The city will have to go to the adults and tell them what time frame they will be able to use. She further stated the only problem she has regarding the adult league practice is if there are families who come to the hockey rink to skate and there are guys on the rink with pucks and sticks. The families are not going to intrude on the adult league's skating time so the city has to make sure that all signs are posted so everybody understands. She also stated she just wants to be fair to everybody so there are no

misunderstandings. Ms. Washburn advised the only thing that changed in the youth league contract was the fee, which she changed to \$5.00 per player. Mr. Sawyer advised the season dates would be adjusted per Mr. Loynes' schedule. Ockerman moved, Hornus seconded to approve the Hockey Rink Lease Agreement with the Shiawassee County Youth Street Organization for the period of October 14, 2001 through March 16, 2002 with schedule addendum for considerations as specified and authorize the Parks & Recreation Director to sign the contract, which includes a \$5.00 per player fee.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Bayless, Runyan, Mehig, Ockerman, Dumond, Hornus.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER ANTIQUE TRUCK SHOW IN MCCURDY PARK ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2001 FROM

10:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M.: Bayless moved, Hornus seconded to approve the Corunna Historical Commission Antique Truck Show on September 9, 2001 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Mr. Sawyer advised the event would be held in the historical village, but there was some discussion regarding traffic and other issues that the historical commission wanted to get council authorization on. He further advised if more antique trucks show up than what the historical village planned then they want to be able to use the property north of the caboose, which is outside of the historical village limits, and he personally did not see a problem with that request. He also advised the historical commission want to put signs up along the street near the historical village to reserve parking for historical village visitors. Dick Water advised there would be close to 100 trucks in the caboose area of the historical village. He further advised since the commission does not know how big the event will be, the commission would like to propose making the street in front of the village and the playscape one-way going into the park for safety purposes. The commission would also like to have those parking spaces used by the people who are paying to get into the truck show. He also advised the commission does not want to interfere with the basic use of the park. Councilperson Ockerman stated he thought the city council would allow the truck show the way it is right now, and if the commission wants to do something different than what the park is supposed to be used for in any fashion then he would like to see the commission come back to council.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Runyan, Ockerman, Bayless, Hornus, Mehig, Dumond.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

PRESENTATION BY LUKE KURRE: Luke Kurre updated council on the summer baseball/softball

program. He advised a candle fundraiser was held and \$2,576 was raised. He further advised he would like to see the money put into an account for the summer youth program.

Councilperson Ockerman advised he spoke with Mr. Sawyer and was told the city council can designate a fund just for the youth softball program. Ockerman moved, Runyan seconded to accept the \$2,576 from Mr. Kurre, which is to be put into the Parks Improvement Fund and is to be restricted and used by the summer youth program.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Hornus, Mehig, Dumond, Bayless, Ockerman, Runyan.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Sawyer reviewed his manager's report with council and with those in the audience.

CONSIDER BOARD OF REVIEW COMPENSATION: Councilperson Ockerman stated he had some concerns and believed he was the only one who voted against increasing the election worker's pay. He further stated he was opposed to increasing the board of review salary to \$8.00 per hour. Ockerman moved, Mehigh seconded to increase the Board of Review salary from \$5.15 per hour to \$7.00 per hour effective July 1, 2001. Councilperson Ockerman advised this pay increase falls in line with what the election workers are paid. Councilperson Hornus advised since there are not that many hours a month \$8.00 per hour would not break the bank. Councilperson Mehigh stated he felt, at this point of time, that \$7.00 per hour was adequate. Roll call vote:
Yes: Mehigh, Bayless, Runyan, Dumond, Ockerman.
No: Hornus.
Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER REMOVAL OF UNDERGROUND FUEL STORAGE TANK: Ockerman moved, Hornus seconded to approve the MacKenzie Environmental Services, Inc. contract for removal of the underground storage tanks at 701 Pine Street in the amount of \$6,786 and remediation/restoration costs to be paid out of line item 661-902-818.000 and authorize the mayor to sign the contract. Roll call vote:
Yes: Dumond, Hornus, Ockerman, Mehigh, Runyan, Bayless.
No: None.
Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER GASB #34 IMPLEMENTATION CONTRACT: Dumond moved, Hornus seconded to approve the GASB #34 implementation contract with Abraham and Gaffney, P.C. in the amount of \$5,000 to be paid out of line item 101-253-821.201 and authorize the mayor to sign the contract. Roll call vote:
Yes: Ockerman, Dumond, Hornus, Runyan, Bayless, Mehigh.
No: None.
Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER CORUNNA DANCE CENTER LEASE RENEWAL: Bayless moved, Hornus seconded to approve the Corunna Dance Center Contract renewal for the McCurdy Park Community Center for the period of September 10, 2001 through May 30, 2002 for the considerations as specified and authorize the Parks & Recreation Director to sign the contract. Councilperson Ockerman stated he had two concerns. He read in the parks and recreation commission minutes that there was damage to the floor, and there must be damage to the floor because the issue is brought up constantly. The agreement states that 30 percent of all monies plus a \$100 deposit will be paid, but he wanted to know how much is being collected. Ms. Washburn advised the dance center is averaging about \$150 per month. She further advised there was roller-skating on the floor, and there was no damage actually done to the floor, but there could have been damage. She also advised she spoke to Ms. Kingsbury and she was assured that it would not happen again. Councilperson Ockerman asked if tennis shoes are worn. Ms.

Washburn advised the students wear tap shoes. Councilperson Ockerman asked if there was any damage to the wood floor. Ms. Washburn advised she went over the floor several times and did not find anything so that is why she wanted to know what was going on. Councilperson Ockerman stated the issue has been brought up before so there must be some value here. Judy Horton stated if the floor is refinished then something would have to be put down on the floor. Councilperson Ockerman stated he did not think tap dancing should be allowed. He asked if the heat in the building is turned down when no one is there. Ms. Washburn advised that was a good question because she has not personally shut the heat down. Councilperson Ockerman asked if there were more costs when someone is using the building or does it cost the same. Ms. Washburn advised the city could make sure that anyone who rents the facility on a regular basis turns down the heat at a specified degree when they leave. Councilperson Ockerman stated he would like to have a checklist given to each person responsible for renting the facility on things to do. Councilperson Runyan suggested installing an automatic thermostat.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Bayless, Runyan, Mehigh, Ockerman, Dumond, Hornus.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER TIME TO HEAL MINISTRIES TENT REVIVAL: Councilperson Bayless asked what the parks and recreation commission's recommendation was because he did not understand everything that was in their minutes. Ms. Washburn stated Mr. Sawyer is looking into the situation because he believed a federal law was passed, which would prevent the city from having a lot of control. Mr. Sawyer advised the law clearly states that a city cannot discriminate based on religious activities. He further advised it would be very difficult to specify a reason not to allow tent revivals without being church specific. He also advised he went down to the park several times during the last tent revival because he was concerned that the revival might infringe or disturb other users of the park. He was picturing a great big circus tent with Steve Martin's leap of faith movie going on, but the tent was no larger than the council chambers and he could not see where that revival could possibly disturb anybody's use of the park. Dumond moved, Hornus seconded to approve the tent revival contract with Time to Heal Ministries for the period of August 13, 2001 through August 18, 2001 for the considerations as specified and authorize the Parks & Recreation Director to sign the contract. Councilperson Runyan asked if the city council needed to establish a policy regarding time frames so the city can have control of the situation. He stated he did not know if an ordinance was needed or just a policy. Councilperson Dumond stated this might be something the city council should look at. Councilperson Mehigh stated the city should also look at the legal aspects. Councilperson Ockerman stated he would like to suggest that any use of the park be limited to no more than 10 days. Mr. Sawyer stated the city has a parks and recreation commission which by ordinance the city council has given control of the park and its facilities. He suggested taking the issue to the parks and recreation commission first. Councilperson Ockerman asked Councilperson Bayless and Ms. Horton to make sure the issue is on the next parks and recreation commission agenda. Councilperson Ockerman stated again that he was proposing limiting park use no longer than 10 concurrent days. Councilperson Mehigh stated the issue should be taken one step further by limiting how many times a year the park can be used because someone could use the park for 10 days have a day off and start again. Ms. Horton suggested once a year. Ms. Washburn recommended limiting the park usage to five days.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Runyan, Ockerman, Bayless, Hornus, Mehig, Dumond.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER REQUEST OF BRIAN DURLING: Mayor Billis asked if the request had been to the parks and recreation commission. Ms. Washburn advised no. Mr. Sawyer advised the request came after the parks and recreation commission had met, and Mr. Durling has requested to use the park on August 20, which is the same date as the next council meeting and was prior to the next parks and recreation commission meeting. Councilperson Ockerman asked Ms. Washburn if there would be a problem. Ms. Washburn advised no. Ockerman moved, Dumond seconded to approve the park use agreement with Brian Durling for the week of August 20, 2001 for considerations as specified and authorize the Parks & Recreation Director to sign the contract.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Hornus, Mehig, Dumond, Bayless, Ockerman, Runyan.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER PURCHASE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE: Dumond moved, Hornus seconded to authorize the purchase of OSSI Property and Evidence Module software in the amount of \$3,500 to be paid out of line item 101-301-977.000.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Mehig, Bayless, Runyan, Dumond, Hornus, Ockerman.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM CORUNNA PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO USE CITY HALL AND FOUR PRIVACY BOOTHS FOR A SPECIAL BOND ELECTION ON SEPTEMBER 24, 2001:

Hornus moved, Mehig seconded to approve the use of city hall and four privacy booths for the Corunna Public Schools Special Bond Election on September 24, 2001.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Dumond, Hornus, Ockerman, Mehig, Runyan, Bayless.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER SOFTBALL COMMISSION APPOINTMENT: Dumond moved, Hornus seconded to appoint Don Gooding to the Corunna Softball Commission for a term beginning upon the taking of oath and continuing until December 31, 2001 or until a successor is appointed.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Ockerman, Dumond, Hornus, Runyan, Bayless, Mehig.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER XEROX COPIER LEASE: Mr. Sawyer asked the city staff if they still had some concerns

with the copier or were they satisfied. Ms. Long suggested tabling the lease. Mr. Sawyer advised the new copier lease payment would be less than what is being paid now. He further advised the copier is a digital printer/copier, and it could be added to the computer network.

Mehigh moved, Hornus seconded to table the Xerox copier lease until the next council meeting.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Bayless, Runyan, Mehigh, Ockerman, Dumond, Hornus.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER DDA APPOINTMENT: Ockerman moved, Hornus seconded to appoint Len Wright to the Corunna Downtown Development Authority for a term beginning upon the taking of oath and continuing until December 31, 2004 or until a successor is appointed.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Runyan, Ockerman, Bayless, Hornus, Mehigh, Dumond.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER DDA APPOINTMENT: Runyan moved, Hornus seconded to appoint Tanya Forrester to the Corunna Downtown Development Authority for a term beginning upon the taking of oath and continuing until December 31, 2001 or until a successor is appointed.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Hornus, Mehigh, Dumond, Bayless, Ockerman, Runyan.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER EX-OFFICIO STATUS FOR PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR: Councilperson Hornus asked Ms. Washburn what the intent of the request was. Ms. Washburn advised she wanted a seat on the table so she could coordinate activities and have better repertoire with the commissions. Councilperson Hornus stated he was curious why she wanted to be an ex-officio status and asked Ms. Washburn if she attended most of the meetings. Ms. Washburn advised yes, but sometimes she is not acknowledged, cannot sit at the table, and was told the other night that she cannot make suggestions. She further advised she was told by one of the commissions the day she could vote was the day she could make a suggestion. Ockerman moved, Dumond seconded to move that the Parks & Recreation Director shall be an ex-officio member of the Corunna Fourth of July Commission, the Parks & Recreation Commission, the Corunna Softball Commission, the Corunna Historical Commission and other commissions to be named in the future. Councilperson Ockerman stated he has been opposed to having a parks and recreation director for a town this size, but this ex-councilperson is a lover of Corunna, and in his opinion, is doing one outstanding job and if there is going to be a parks and recreation director then she ought to have a voice. Councilperson Bayless stated he looked up what an ex-officio was and an ex-officio is a member of a committee because of the office they hold. The parks and recreation commission has always felt that Ms. Washburn was part of the commission in practice if not officially recognized as an ex-officio member. Councilperson Bayless further stated the softball and Fourth of July commission have language in their ordinances about ex-officio members. The historical commission was a little fuzzy to him because he did not know what their relationship was to the park, but there is no language in their ordinance about ex-officio members at all. He also stated he thought the city council has the right to appoint to ex-officio members so council should be okay there. Councilperson

Bayless advised an ex-officio serves in an advisory capacity and does not vote. Councilperson Runyan stated council could establish a voting right. Mr. Sawyer stated in our government the four commissions are controlled by an ordinance, and it would be his position that the city council cannot supersede an ordinance with a simple motion. A public hearing would have to be held so it would be his opinion that council could not bestow Ms. Washburn a voting right, but by making this motion council was making a statement to the commissions that council wants Ms. Washburn there. She should not be treated like an intruder and should sit at the table with them. Councilperson Ockerman stated he read the motion that was suggested by the city manager, but the motion does not state that Ms. Washburn is a voting member. He asked Mr. Sawyer if his intent was not to have Ms.

Washburn be a voting member. Mr. Sawyer advised he does not believe that council has that right without changing the individual ordinances. Councilperson Ockerman asked Mr. Sawyer to find out whether council could give Ms. Washburn voting rights or not. Mr. Sawyer advised he would check into the situation.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Mehigh, Bayless, Runyan, Dumond, Hornus, Ockerman.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER STANDARD CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION: Hornus moved, Dumond seconded that the Parks and Recreation Director shall have the authority to sign rental/lease agreements for all facilities except special uses which has to be approved by the city council.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Bayless, Dumond, Hornus, Mehigh, Ockerman, Runyan.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CONSIDER PURCHASE OF NEW FURNACE FOR DPW BUILDING: Runyan moved, Dumond seconded to authorize the purchase of a new furnace for the DPW garage in an amount not to exceed \$1,750 to be paid out of line item 661-902-818.000 and authorize the city manager to obtain bids and execute the purchase.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Ockerman, Dumond, Hornus, Runyan, Bayless, Mehigh.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

RE-TABLE PUBLIC HEARING FOR CHARTER AMENDMENTS: Hornus moved, Ockerman seconded to table and re-notice the public hearing on the charter amendments for August 20, 2001 at 7:15 p.m.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Bayless, Runyan, Mehigh, Ockerman, Dumond, Hornus.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED

CALL TO AUDIENCE: Don Runyon stated Councilperson Mehigh spoke earlier about cars parking

on the grass in the park and Ms. Horton talked about having a truck show. He asked how many people who come to see the truck show would have tickets on their cars. There is not enough room to park without parking on the grass. Councilperson Mehig advised there was plenty of room to park on Sunday, but it was more convenient for people to park on the grass. Mr. Runyon advised when the tent revival comes to the park people will park where they can. He asked if people would be given tickets. Councilperson Mehig advised he did not know but that is a different situation. Mr. Runyon advised no, it is still the same grass. Councilperson Runyan stated in the past parking on the grass has been permitted. Mr. Runyon stated you can either park on the grass or you cannot park on the grass. He asked how many people will come to see the truck show if they know they might get a ticket for parking on the grass. Ms. Horton stated the historical commission would do their best to keep people parked where they are suppose to

park. She further stated she is planning to talk to Mrs. Bush to see if her property can be used for parking. Councilperson Mehig asked if the Shiawassee Area Transportation Agency could shuttle people when there are events in the park. Councilperson Ockerman stated he did not think so.

Gene Sanderson asked if the construction people still meet on Friday mornings. Mr. Sawyer advised yes. Mr. Sanderson stated there is nice grass seeding in front of the courthouse, but from Hicks Studio south there are weeds growing. He further stated he would not accept the weeds if he was the landowner. He asked if anyone has looked at the area. Mayor Billis stated he did not know what was done. Mr. Sanderson stated it would be crazy to have weeds growing in front of the houses after the city spends thousand of dollars putting in new streetlights, pretty red cement and benches. He further stated the council people from the two wards should take a look at the area. He also stated the grass should be torn out and redone properly. Mayor Billis stated he was not aware of the situation Mr. Sanderson was talking about. Mr. Sanderson stated the amount of weeds growing is unbelievable. Ms. Horton advised the weeds could be growing due to the dry weather. She further advised the grass seed has to be watered. Mr. Sawyer stated he would check out the situation. He further stated it is the property owner's responsibility to maintain the area between the sidewalk and the curb. He also stated some people see the mesh and do not believe they can mow over it because they are afraid the sting might get caught in the lawnmower. Mr. Sawyer advised the string material is nothing more than a weaved straw so it will not damage a lawnmower.

ADJOURN: Ockerman moved to adjourn.

Roll call vote:

Yes: Runyan, Ockerman, Bayless, Hornus, Mehig, Dumond.

No: None.

Motion CARRIED Time was 9:35 p.m.

DR. JAMES BILLIS, MAYOR

YVONNE F. LONG, CITY CLERK